

Art Unit: 1753

Serial No.: 09/833,036

Please rewrite the claims as follows:

- AI*  
*sub*  
*D17*
1. (Amended Once) A method of coating a substrate, comprising:
- providing a substrate having a surface;
  - forming a polymeric layer on the surface of the substrate by electrophoretically
  - applying a layer of a polymeric precursor to at least a portion of the surface;
  - polymerizing the polymeric precursor to form a polymerized layer; and
  - applying a metal coating to at least a portion of the polymerized layer;
  - wherein the metal coating is applied under sub-atmospheric conditions.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were the subject of a Restriction Requirement. In response, Applicant has canceled claim 2, and amended independent claim 1. As a result of the amendment, it is believed that examination of the claims should not be an undue burden on the Examiner, and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested. If the Patent Office maintains the Restriction, then Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-15, drawn to a method of coating a substrate.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully asserts that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof or credit any overpayment to our account #19-0120.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 3, 2002

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**Version with marking to show changes to claims**

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